

NATO and Libya - Operation Unified Protector



E-3A aircraft stationed at FOB Trapani, Italy.

Photo Wiel Borghans

On March 27, NATO Allies decided to take on the whole military operation in Libya under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973. The purpose of Operation Unified Protector is to protect civilians and civilian-populated areas under threat of attack. NATO will implement all military aspects of the UN Resolution.

All NATO Allies are committed to fulfill their obligations under the UN resolution. Since the resolution was passed on March 17, Allies have moved swiftly and decisively to enforce the arms embargo and no-fly zone called for in the resolution, and to take further measures to protect civilians and civilian populated areas from attack.

NATO is impartial in this operation. The UN Security Council Resolution

applies to all sides. NATO is taking action as part of the broad international effort and looks forward to working with its partners in the region.

The handover of operations to NATO from the coalition will be carefully coordinated to make sure that de-confliction is assured and that full military coverage is maintained throughout.

Background and timeline

Following the popular uprising which began in Benghazi on 17 February 2011, the United Nations (UN) Security Council adopted Resolution 1970. This institutes an arms embargo, freezes the personal assets of Libya's leaders and imposes a travel ban on senior figures.

On 8 March, with international concern over the Libyan crisis

growing, NATO stepped up its surveillance operations in the Central Mediterranean, deploying AWACS aircraft to provide round-the-clock observation. These "eyes in the sky" give NATO detailed information of movements in Libyan airspace.

On 10 March, NATO Defence Ministers supported SACEUR's decision to have alliance ships move to the same area to boost the monitoring effort.

On 17 March, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1973, authorizing member states and regional organizations to, inter alia, take "all necessary measures" to protect civilians in Libya.

On 22 March, NATO responded to the UN call by launching an operation to enforce the arms embargo against Libya. On 23 March, NATO's arms

embargo operation started.

NATO ships and aircraft are operating in the Central Mediterranean to make sure that the flow of weapons to Libya by sea is cut off. They have the right to stop and search any vessel they suspect of carrying arms or mercenaries.

The NATO ships will not enter Libyan territorial waters. NATO has no intention of deploying land forces anywhere in Libyan territory.

On 24 March, NATO decided to enforce the UN-mandated no-fly zone over Libya. The UN resolution called for a ban on all flights, except those for humanitarian and aid purposes, in Libyan airspace, to make sure that civilians and civilian populated areas cannot be subjected to air attack.

Source www.nato.int

Next NATO Skywatch:
6 May
Submissions due by:
28 April

Rotodome services
See page 6-7





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CSA Hail & Farewell event and AGM 2011



Left-right: CSA Chairman Mr. Guy Vandebek, Mr. Heinz Billmann, Mr. Johan Gerwe, Brig.Gen. Burkhard Pototzky, Mr. Leslie Baker-Price.

Text Paul Baker
Photos Andrea Hohenforst

On 05 April, at its first Quarterly Hail and Farewell event of 2011, the Civilian Staff Association was delighted to welcome Component Commander Brig.Gen. Burkhard Pototzky. He presented E-3A Component Certificates of Appreciation to three recent retirees and to four staff members, who have achieved 25 years of service to NATO, and he welcomed the newcomers present at the meeting.

Brig.Gen. Pototzky then addressed the audience, commenting on the current overall situation and expressing his great appreciation of the excellent teamwork being performed by the Component's military and civilian members in ongoing operations.

Following the Component Commander's departure, the CSA held its Annual General Meeting at which the CSA Chairman, Mr. Guy Vandebek, addressed numerous topical issues of interest to NATO International Civilian staff. The AGM also approved a revised version of the CSA Constitution.

Staff members honored at this event:

Mr. Leslie Baker-Price served in the E-3A Component Logistics Wing from May 1984, first as a Pneudraulics System Specialist and then as a Senior Technician (Fuselage). He retired as of 01 November last year.

Mr. Heinz Billmann joined the E-3A Component Base Support Wing in February 1983 as an Assistant Cook. He served the Component from that time until his retirement as of 01 March 2011.

Mr. Johan Gerwe joined the E-3A Component Logistics Wing in January 1983 as a Radar Maintenance Specialist. He served as a Principal Technician from October 1991 until his retirement as of 17 February this year.

Mr. Rainer Faymonville joined the E-3A Component Logistics Wing in January 1986 and transferred to Procurement and Contracting Division in the same year. He continues to serve the Component within that functional area and has been promoted several times, most recently to Staff Assistant. He has also been an active and well respected member of the CSA Staff Committee for many years and is currently the CSA's representative on the Morale & Welfare Council.

Mr. Theodorus Collijn joined the E-3A Component Base Support Wing in February 1984 as a Chief Clerk. From that time onwards he

has continued to work in the field of base administration services, becoming Principal Assistant in 2003 and Section Head in August 2010. He is also Project Manager for the Component's significant new Information & Knowledge Management project.

Mr. Maurizio de Odorico joined the E-3A Component Logistics Wing in January 1986 as a Principal Technician in the EMS Planning Office. In 1991 he was appointed Assistant Shop Chief and since 1996 he has been Chief of the ERCS Maintenance Facility.

Mr. Bernd Walz joined the E-3A Component Base Support Wing in January 1986 as a Senior Clerk and was promoted to Assistant in January 1992. In May 1998 he transferred to Logistics Wing Stock Control Section, where he has served since October 2003 as Senior Assistant (Item Manager).



Left-right: CSA Chairman Mr. Guy Vandebek, Mr. Maurizio de Odorico, Mr. Theodorus Collijn, Brig.Gen. Burkhard Pototzky, Mr. Bernd Walz, Mr. Rainer Faymonville.

Letter to the editor - April Fool's joke

By Lt.Col. Uwe Schulz,
Head Base Support Division

A joke is a joke, and even better when made on 1 April. In the last Skywatch, we announced that McDonald's, Burger King or Subway would soon operate out of the Sentry Club.

We hoped that this article would stir up some good laughs,

expectations, irritations and discussions.

From the responses received since then, we have to admit that we more than achieved this goal. Making a good joke on somebody else's back is a good tradition in Germany and worldwide on April Fool's Day, and the more the 'victim' is fooled the better the joke was. So for everyone out there who is still

angry with the article or with the author: It was only a joke on April Fool's Day.

Neither McDonald's, nor Burger King nor Subway will start their business on the Component. The highly motivated Rotodome staff will continue to serve excellent food that no commercial fast food provider can compete with. And for those who have not come

and enjoyed it - the food is much healthier and it tastes much better at the Rotodome.

NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

We regret that some staff members felt offended by this April Fool's joke. It was not our intention to hurt any of our readers' feelings.



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Project management training on base

Text and photo Janina Bien

In mid March, the Office of Transformation (DCOMT) started to offer project management training for personnel involved in or exposed to project support.

The training package is specifically oriented towards our work environment and covers a wide range of information varying from project phases, project traps, risk management and several useful tips that project teams can directly use, even during their daily work. Specific issues like our budget process and the

impact of personnel rotations are also covered from an insider's perspective. The many examples – good and bad, successes and failures, funny and not so funny – of past and ongoing projects allow the participants to link the information directly to a real situation. Another rather unconventional part of the training is an overview of how project details can be documented and visualized.

The training has been given twice so far. At the end of every session, the attendees are requested to provide feedback on what was good, what was bad and whether they have any

recommendations. This approach has resulted in several excellent suggestions that have already been incorporated into the training package.

In parallel with the training package, DCOMT also prepared the first version of a Component Project Management Handbook, which is given to trainees during the training. This handbook solution diverges from the original idea of creating some kind of a project management directive or instruction. That idea was abandoned because attendees at the first sessions unanimously agreed that a binding directive would create too many restrictions and remove some of the flexibility required for handling projects.

By excluding all theory and academic issues that are not relevant for the Component, it was possible to condense the training into a one-day session. This serves a two-fold purpose as the training still covers everything required for our purposes and it does not unnecessarily take people away from their busy jobs.

As one of the attendees of the second session, I can confirm it is really worthwhile attending. The training consists of a refreshing presentation with lively discussions and a good dialogue between the presenter and the audience. The

interactive approach provides an excellent forum for exchanging experience and expertise, and it has also proven to be a very valuable 'networking event'. Last but not least, it gives the audience an excellent jumpstart in project management and is highly recommended for future project managers and project team members.

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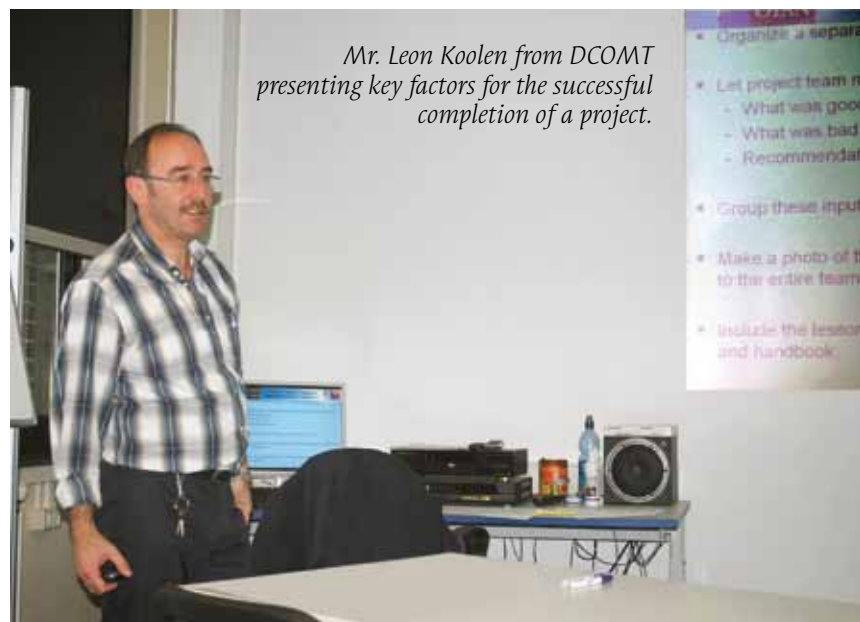
Initiation → definition → development → implementation → closure

Who can attend?

All Component personnel involved in or exposed to project management are more than welcome to participate in this one-day training that usually lasts from 0830-1600.

The training sessions are organized as required and an optimum attendance is between 6 and 10 persons.

Please contact Mr. Leon Koolen, DCOMT, ext 2082, for more detailed information or to request a project management training session. Training certificates are provided after successful completion of the training session.



Industry standard training for technicians

By Maurizio De Odorico and Richard Ojeda

Between December 2010 and January 2011 four ERCS-IMF (LWEJ) technicians and two radar (LWER) technicians from the Electronics Maintenance Squadron (EMS) completed two courses at the PIEK International Education Centre (I.E.C.) in Heerlen, the Netherlands.

The courses, subsidized by SHAPE and NAMSA Air Defence Programme, provided industry standards training in rework and repair of electronic assemblies and requirements, acceptance for cable and wire harness assemblies. Such training is a requirement for the ERCS-IMF technicians as a result of their newly assigned task as depot level maintainers of the JTIDS Class-1 hardware and its related test equipment. The radar technicians were very pleased to have this training opportunity as, due to the big manpower turn-over in their section, they lacked expertise in these fields, and this know-how is a requirement for professionally

performing their maintenance duties.

For the very first time in the history of the E-3A Component, EMS technicians have been certified to a worldwide industry standard. This in itself is unique and sets a precedent. These courses are subject to the strict requirements set by interconnecting and packaging electronic circuits (IPC) standards. The IPC Association has developed the 'de facto' industry standard for electronic soldering and printed circuit board repair as well as connector and harness assembly and inspection.

IPC membership includes industry giants such as Northrop Grumman, Lockheed and Tektronix as well as many national government agencies (NGA). The course participants had to meet stringent requirements for both written and practical assessments, testing their knowledge and skills in soldering, PC board rework and repair. Additionally, they were tested in wire wrapping, rigid cable fabrication and assembly techniques as well as wire harness assembly and inspection standards.

However, the training does not stop here. These newly certified technicians are also required to recertify every two years in order to maintain their qualifications as Certified IPC Specialists (CIS).

It goes without saying that with the demands placed on today's electronic components, especially in a military/airborne environment, such specific skills acquired by these technicians will undoubtedly benefit greatly the

Component and NATO Agencies in general in the coming years.

From left to right: Mr. Richard Ojeda (LWEJ), Mr. Rob Walls (PIEK Managing Director), Mr. Marcel Wecksele (LWER), Mr. Niels Jensen (LWEJ), Mr. Ralf Drees (LWER), Mr. Joseph Lamerichs (LWEJ), Mr. Gerd Niessen (LWEJ) and Mr. Maurizio De Odorico (ERCS-IMF Supervisor), who attended the final graduation ceremony at Piek International Education Centre.



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Our Rotodome – a great

Text Food Services System
Photos Andrea Hohenforst

Someone once said that 'an army marches on its stomach'. This was not meant literally, of course, but in the sense that food is very important for soldiers' personal stamina and morale. E-3A Component members (except those in the International Marching Team) are more likely to fly or drive than to march, but a reliable provider of enjoyable meals is still essential.

As we all realize, tasty food plays a key role in keeping up morale and helping people's welfare (known more simply as 'feeling good'). That is why the Food Services system at Main Operating Base Geilenkirchen operates under the flag of Morale and Welfare.

The main catering facility on base was known until last year as the 'Star Chef', the International Dining Hall (IDH). With the budgetary cutbacks

imposed on the Component last year, the entire MWA system had to be restructured. MWA is making good progress in its efforts to recover from this major setback, and the renamed Rotodome dining facility is playing the central role in this. The other available facilities are the E-3A club, Red Lion, Bavaria Cellar, and Building 60 (the former Frisbee Club) where the Kegelbahn can be rented through the Activity Manager's Office.

In March 2010, the Rotodome attracted 260 guests to lunch on the first day. In the meantime the staff have worked very hard to increase these numbers. "In January 2011 we were at a level of more than 500 guests per day!" says Peeters with a smile. "Breakfast is a growing part of our business too – we changed the concept and variety after talking with our customers. For dinner, which we serve in buffet style, we offer two menus at our customers' request.



Food Services provide the Component not only with daily food and beverages, but also support all official visits and special events at the Component: VIP lunches and dinners, official receptions, brunches, national celebrations, Altweiberfest, Christmas dinners, Sports Day, and more. This also includes the regular task of supplying coffee and beverages to the guests of the Component through the Public Affairs Office.

Our two Chefs, Mr. Wilhelm Diener and Mr. Neil Cuthbert, have worked hard on all the menus, constantly changing the variety of the meals we offer and buying the necessary products for the best price. We mustn't forget that these two Chefs are not sitting in their office the whole day. We have five cooks aboard (including Diener and Cuthbert), which means they are all cooking daily and can watch the quality of the food. Of course, we aim to keep our costs as low as possible so that the Food Services system remains viable. The kitchen helpers/short order cooks of the Food Services System are doing a great job too. They cook the tastiest pizzas and hamburgers and also clean all the pots and pans, plates and cutlery, fill up the salad bar, prepare breakfast, fill up the juice, and so on. Without them, the Rotodome and the E-3A Club would not be a success."

"We are very proud of our Rotodome," says Activity Manager Mr. René Peeters. "We are open to Component members and visitors and we look forward to seeing even more people eating here in future as the number of MWA card holders increases. Mondays to Fridays, except on Component Holidays, we open at 0600. We offer several breakfast options until 1100, two main meal options at lunch, a buffet-style dinner, and fast food anytime from 1100 until we close at 1900."

All the buildings controlled by Food Services -including the former Sentry Club- have their regular needs. Cleaning, running water through the pipes, filling up the beverages at the Kegelbahn, bringing



"The staff of the Food Services System can be divided into two main groups: Service and Kitchen," Peeters adds. "We have 22 staff members - 8 full timers and 14 part timers - to cover our operations and serve the Component. On a weekly basis, Monday through Friday, the Rotodome is open for 65 hours and the E-3A Club for 55 hours. We do this with the available staff. They have to work very hard on a tight schedule. Every member of the staff is multifunctional. The Kitchen staff have to help out at the cash register when needed, and the Service staff have to clean, serve food, rearrange the Club several times per week, and so on."



place to eat

coffee to the PAO room, lending out benches and chairs to different Component agencies. This is a very time consuming business that has to be done by the Service Staff and the Activity Manager. The Service group consists of only five persons, who have to operate the cash register at the Rotodome and also run the Bar in the E-3A Club during normal operating hours and at special functions. Mr. Josef Vreuls plays a key role in helping to meet all these requirements, travelling around the Base from one facility to another to perform various tasks whenever he is not at the cash register of the Rotodome or in the bar at the E-3A Club.

improvements that can be made here. One wish was a terrace which we managed to get built and has just been opened. But also wishes about the food. At the moment we are thinking of offering something for guests who like to eat Vegetarian. And of course, a big salad option is already available at the Rotodome."

The Food Services staff provide essential support to the Morale & Welfare of our international community. They look forward to welcoming you to the Rotodome, where you can enjoy the food and visit the new terrace. See you there!

Your Food Services Staff:
Jo, Carl, Marlies, Sigrid, Susanna, José, Wiel, Neil, René, Markus, Bernd, Markus, Astrid, Marlies, Helga, Sonja, Myrese, Monika, Georgia, Ramona, Ingrid, Angelika, Rheinilde, René.

A concluding word from René Peeters: "When I talk with customers, I write down every one of their wishes, criticisms or suggestions so that I can think about changes and





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By Maj. Iker Kurt

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The International Tennis Club on base

Text and photo Marc Kooijman

At the International Tennis Club (ITC) on base we have been playing tennis for more than 20 years. Our doors are open to everybody and we would like to welcome anyone who wishes to become a member and play tennis in an international environment. We have two fun tournaments per year, where everyone can participate and get to know each other. Participants have the chance to get to know other players of their level with whom they can then play during the season. With our four gravel courts we provide plenty of opportunities for all tennis players from mid-April until the end of October. Our courts give you the chance to serve, hit, slide and smash, all close to your work. The courts are open to all ITC members. It is very easy to become a member. More information can be found on the E-3A Component page under MWA and approved clubs. Going to play sports in the sun with your kid is good fun and if you learn it at a young age you will never forget it. Point of contact is Mr. Marc Kooijman, ext. 3745.





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May tree tradition in Germany

Photo and text Janina Bien

For the late evening of 30 April in the Rhine region there is a special tradition: the May tradition. A young man can place a May tree nicely decorated with colorful crepe bands outside his beloved girl's home. From region to region there are different traditions, varying from placing very colorful trees (mostly birch trees), a self-made May heart or May pictures, but also painting a line from the boy's home to the girl's one. This 'decoration of love' also demonstrates that a boy and a girl are already in love, and placing another tree in front of the girl's house is not usually allowed. In a leap year it is also now quite common that this tradition takes place the opposite way around: in that special year girls are allowed to place May decorations at their boyfriends' homes.

Skywatch survey

Dear Skywatch readers,

Giving and receiving feedback is essential in order to know what other people think about a specific topic.

Constructive feedback can provide new insights and lead to improvements. As we would like to know what you think about our base magazine and what do you like best or do not like in Skywatch, you now have the option to provide us with your constructive feedback. On WSS, either on the main page or under PAO, is a link to a feedback feature that will enable us to make improvements reflecting your preferences. You can also send recommendations to us via e-mail or the internal mail service. We would like to thank you in advance for your support and time!

Public Affairs Office



Art elephants make Heerlen colorful

The streets of Heerlen are decorated with 40 different 2 meter-high elephant creations.

The colorful works of art are part of the largest open air exhibition in the world, called the Elephant Parade, and are to promote the conservation of the Asian elephant. Many well-known Dutch artists have painted elephants.

This exhibition is a project of the association "Women make Heerlen smile". Mrs. Margriet Kousen, chairwoman of this association, explains that the elephants are cheering up the streets in Heerlen and will also bring in a considerable sum of money during an auction at the end of May.



Photo courtesy Elephant Parade

Elephant auction

The auction of the art elephants will take place on 28 May at the APG Pensioengroep under the lead of the well-known auction house Christie's. Since the start of the

elephant parade in 2007 more than 7 million euros have been raised at auctions in Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam and London. From that sum, about 4 million euros have been donated to a good cause. The Asian Elephant Foundation makes sure that the money reaches various projects throughout Asia.

Elephant Parade Gallery Store

Replicas of some of the designed elephant objects can be purchased. These replicas are hand painted by professional fine art painters in Thailand and are available in limited quantity. During the elephant parade in Heerlen these replicas can be bought from the Elephant Parade Gallery Store, Promenade 14-26 in Heerlen, or from the web shop: webshop@elephantparade.com.

During Elephant Parade Heerlen 2011 you can admire an artwork by Richard Krajicek. The Wimbledon champion of 1996 painted one of the art elephants for the elephant parade. He was inspired by the place he prefers to spend most of his life: the tennis court. With help of a professional artist, Anja Frenaij, the elephant 'Wimby' came to life with tennis balls as eyes and a fine line play. Richard Krajicek's artwork will also be auctioned off on May 28.

IYA Easter activities

IYA Easter Egg Hunt & Games:

18 April, 14:30, on the IYA Playground behind Bldg. 95.

Make sure to join the fun, meet the Easter Bunny, hunt for eggs and play seasonal games. No fee. Rain delay date is 19 April.

IYA Easter break trip to LEGOLAND Discovery Centre and SEA LIFE Aquarium for children aged 5+:

20 April, 0830 - 1745, the children can be dropped off from 0745. LEGOLAND boasts a 4-D cinema, rides, adventure trail, hall of heroes, build and test centre as well as a factory tour. At SEA LIFE you watch sharks, rays, green turtles, seahorses, star fish and many more marine inhabitants through giant panoramic windows. Enjoy the views of the walk-through tunnel and the huge tropical sea tank. Cost is €32 per child, pay only €25 with your valid MWA Card. Chaperones go free. We stop for lunch at the famous food court of the CENTRO mall.

For further information please contact the IYA Office in Bldg. 95, ext. 4954 / 4955.

Photo courtesy www.english-blog.de

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